

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 IO-13 SS-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 CPR-01

SY-05 PRS-01 USSS-00 /051 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:RCPERRY:SEH

APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE

EB:JAGREENWALD

AF/S:RTHAVERKAMP

IO/CMD:LKAHN

D -JCAHILL

S/S:- MR. ORTIZ

----- 030727

P 031601Z MAY 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107026 TOSEC 110600

TO AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE FROM AF:SEELYE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, UCTAD

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: BOTSWANA BILATERAL AT
UNCTAD IV

REF: STATE 99243

1) YOUR MEETING WITH BOTSWANA'S COMMERCE MINISTER, DR.
CHIEPE, WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 6:00 P.M.

2) PARTICIPANTS: US - THE SECRETARY, AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE.
BOTSWANA - DR. GAOSITWE CHIEPE, PHONETIC (CHEE-EP-PAY).

3) CHECKLIST

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--RHODESIA - REQUEST DR. CHIEPE EXPLAIN BOTSWANA'S POLICY

VIS-A-VIS RHODESIA.

4) SETTING

DR. CHIEPE, MINISTER OF COMMERCE SINCE NOVEMBER 1974, HEADS BOTSWANA'S FOUR MEMBER DELEGATION TO UNCTAD IV AND HAS PRESIDENT KHAMA'S FULL CONFIDENCE. SHE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS BOTSWANA'S HIGH COMMISSIONER (I.E. AMBASSADOR) IN LONDON

DURING 1970-74. BORN IN 1922, MISS CHIEPE SERVED AS BOTSWANA'S DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION FROM 1965 TO 1970.

5) BACKGROUND

PRESIDENT KHAMA HAS PLAYED A PROMINENT ROLE TOGETHER WITH PRESIDENTS KAUNDA, NYERERE, AND MACHEL IN AFRICAN EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. HE HAS BEEN MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO: -- PREVENT VIOLENT CONFRONTATION IN THE AREA; -- MAINTAIN THE STABILITY OF HIS COUNTRY, ONE OF THE MOST OPEN AND DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES IN AFRICA; AND -- SHOW THAT BLACKS AND WHITES CAN LIVE IN HARMONY IN A TOLERANT BLACK-RULED SOCIETY.

IN A MARCH 25 PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT KHAMA DECLARED THAT DIALOGUE WITH SMITH HAS FAILED AND INTENSIFICATION OF ARMED STRUGGLE IS THE ONLY COURSE OPEN TO RHODESIANS. HE ADDED THAT ANC UNITY IS ESSENTIAL TO LIBERATE RHODESIA AND THAT NEITHER THE FOUR PRESIDENTS NOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WANT FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT, INCLUDING CUBANS AND SOVIETS.

PRESIDENT KHAMA STATED, BEFORE YOUR APRIL 27 SPEECH, THAT HE DID NOT PLAN TO CLOSE BOTSWANA'S RHODESIAN RAIL LINK. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED REPORTS OF ANY COMMENT BY KHAMA ON THIS ISSUE SINCE YOUR SPEECH. BOTSWANA'S ABILITY TO EXPORT ITS BEEF AND MINERALS WOULD BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY CLOSING THE BORDER WITH RHODESIA, SINCE THE RAILROAD IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY RHODESIA. IF THE RAIL LINK IS CLOSED BY THE SMITH REGIME OR BY AN ACT

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OF WAR BOTSWANA'S ECONOMY WOULD BE SEVERELY WEAKENED. A DELEGATION FROM THE UN COMMITTEE OF 24 ON COLONIALISM VISITED BOTSWANA APRIL 23-26. THE TANZANIAN CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE SAID IT WOULD NOT TELL BOTSWANA TO CLOSE ITS BORDER WITH RHODESIA.

6) COURTESY POINT

-- PLEASE CONVEY MY CONGRATULATIONS TO PRES. KHAMA
FOR HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS TOWARD A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF
THE RHODESIAN SITUATION.

7) ISSUE/TALKING POINTS

RHODESIA

PEACEFUL SOLUTION, THE GOB HAS NOW ACKNOWLEDGED THAT

-- -

MAJORITY RULE MAY ONLY BE POSSIBLE THRU MILITARY MEANS
DUE TO SMITH'S INTRANSIGENCE. ON APRIL 16, PRESIDENT
KHAMA SAID THAT MAJORITY RULE DOES NOT MEAN AN END TO
MINORITY RIGHTS BUT THAT THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY WORK
TOGETHER FOR THEIR COMMON GOOD.

U.S. POSITION: ENUNCIATED IN YOUR LUSAKA SPEECH OF
APRIL 27.

YOUR TALKING POINTS:

-- AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE EMBARKING ON A 10-POINT
PROGRAM THAT WE HOPE WILL HASTEN THE COMING OF MAJORITY
RULE IN RHODESIA.

-- HOW DOES PRESIDENT KHAMA SEE THE SITUATION
UNFOLDING?

-- WHAT EFFECT WILL FORESEEABLE RHODESIAN DEVELOP-
MENTS HAVE ON BOTSWANA?

-- WHAT DOES BOTSWANA EXPECT TO ACHIEVE AT UNCTADIV?
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8) GABORONE 807 AND 816 WHICH REFER TO LUSAKA SPEECH JUST
RECEIVED. ADDITIONAL ISSUE/TALKING POINT REFLECTING
THESE CABLES TO FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

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TAGS: EAID, EFIN, US, BC, UNCTAD, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (CHIEPE, GAOSITWE)
To: SECRETARY
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